

☐ UNCLASSIFIED ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ SECRET

# ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

5B29

SR/CA/E

EXTENSION

5766

NO.

DATE

16 December 1963

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1

CSR/CA

2

3

SR/CI/DL, 5C45

2/1/64

4

CA/1

Coordinated in draft

5

CSR/CI/K/DR

6

7

CI/OG/SS

3 JAN 1964

03

8

g/c/c

3 JAN 1964

9

C/CI

3 JAN 1964

10

SR/CA/E

11

CI/LSN

6 JAN 1964

12

13

14

RID/AN

15

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

This report already furnished the FBI at request of CA/sec-Knauf. FBI has sent us several reports on Bolbotenko, and also rpt of their interview with Burka.  
6 JAN 1964

Pl cancel this CSC

FORM 1-62

610

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: Wasył BARKA, also known as  
Wasył Konstantinovich OCHERET

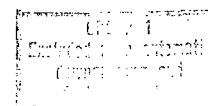
1. This is in reference to our CSCI-3/778,590, dated 5 November 1963, the subject of which was Valentin Ivanovich TSURKAN; (fnu) BOLBOTENKO.

2. According to a confidential source of this Agency, two men who said they were members of the Soviet Ukrainian Delegation to the United Nations, visited Subject on 15 November 1963 in his home, a room he rents at 23 West 82nd Street, New York, New York. Subject is a poet and prosaist of some renown who writes in the Ukrainian language. The two men who delivered to Subject a letter which they said was from his son, Yuri Vasilovych OCHERET, identified themselves only by the names of Oleksiy and Boris.

3. In the letter brought by the two Soviets, alledgedly from the Subject's son, the son asks Subject to return to the Soviet Union. He states that conditions there have improved, that there is much more freedom, and that Subject's "sins" would be forgiven. He said he feels Subject deserves a better life than the one he now has in the West.

4. Oleksiy did most of the talking, although both Soviets encouraged the Subject to return "home, to live not only in peace but in prosperity as well." Oleksiy told the Subject that Subject's mother and brother were deceased. He indicated they were deported and tormented to death immediately after the war. Oleksiy asked the Subject to write a letter to his son and also to send him a gift parcel. He gave the Subject his son's measurements and Subject agreed to send the parcel. Oleksiy did not give Subject his son's address, but instead, he offered to deliver the gifts personally. Another meeting with the Subject was scheduled for Wednesday, 20 November 1963, at 1100 hours, at a bus stop on 81st Street and 8th Avenue.

16 Dec 63



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5. During the long conversation with Subject (2015-0030), the Soviets tried to convince him that he should return to the Soviet Union. Subject gave them his reasons for not wanting to return; i.e., lack of individual and political freedom and, particularly, Russification in the Ukraine. Although the Soviets admitted that everything was not as it should be at present, they said the situation in the Soviet Union was growing progressively better. They denied that Ukrainian writers and artists were being persecuted, yet they attacked the Subject for his most recent book, The Yellow Prince, in which he writes about the 1933 man-made famine in the Ukraine.

6. The Subject told this Agency's source that he is determined not to return to the Soviet Union, but that he intends to maintain the contact with his son whom he last saw when the boy was nine years of age because he does not want to be the cause of any harm to the latter. The Subject is a very excitable and emotional individual. He seems unable to evaluate logically the visit of the two Soviets. He is fearful for himself and for the life of his son. It was recommended to Subject by the source of this information that he report the contact by the two Soviets to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He said he was afraid to do this personally but promised to report the incident to his superiors at Radio Liberty where he is employed and said he would ask them to report the incident to the Bureau.

7. The two Soviets admitted trying and failing to contact Subject on three previous occasions. Subject's apartment bell number is No. 13. Since bell numbers in the building where Subject lives do not correspond to the room or apartment numbers, only those who were informed by the Subject personally knew that his bell number is 13.

8. According to the Subject, he again met with Oleksiy on 20 November 1963 at the prearranged time and place. Oleksiy accepted from Subject a letter to the latter's son. He said he would accept the gift parcel for Subject's son at another meeting which was scheduled for 29 November 1963. At this second meeting, Oleksiy identified himself as Leonid BOLBOTENKO, Second Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UkSSR, presently assigned to the Soviet Delegation at the United Nations. He said he used the names of Oleksiy and Leonid interchangeably.

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9. Since his involvement with Ukrainian emigres can affect certain operational activities of this Agency, any additional information you may be able to supply on BOLBOTENKO would be appreciated.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

C      □  
JAMES ANGLETON

CSCI-3,779/210

Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification